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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. Kuwajima et al. : Art Unit: 2653
Serial No.: 09/774,347 : Examiner: G. Letscher
Filed: January 31, 2001 :
For: HEAD SUPPORT MECHANISM :
AND THIN FILM
PIEZOELECTRIC ACTUATOR

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

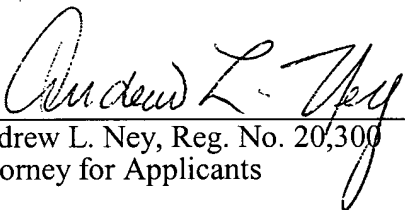
Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Reference 11-031368 is not in the English language, but an English abstract thereof is attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before mailing of the first Official Action on the merits. No first Official Action on the merits has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). Nevertheless, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew L. Ney, Reg. No. 20,300
Attorney for Applicants

Enclosures:

PTO Form 1449

Copy of (1) Reference

Dated: January 24, 2003

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

11/24/03
As Rmelo